

## Chief Judge Thomas Rice



On June 29, 2011, President Obama nominated Judge Rice to the seat on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington that had been vacated by Judge Robert H. Whaley, who took senior status in 2009. He received a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee on September 20, 2011, and his nomination was reported to the floor of the Senate by voice vote on October 13, 2011. On March 6, 2012, the United States Senate confirmed Judge Rice's nomination in a 93–4 vote. He received his commission on March 8, 2012. Judge Rice became Chief Judge of the district court on January 27, 2016.